

Message Text

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50

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IOE-00 /066 W

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P 061602Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4861

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 1711

USUN FOR AMBASSADOR BENNETT

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PN, PA

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTER TACK AND DR. JORGE
ILLUECA

REF: PANAM 2546

1. SUMMARY: IT APPEARS THAT THE TACK-ILLUECA VISITS TO
VARIOUS COUNTRIES OSTENSIBLY TO REPORT ON PROGRESS ON
THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS WAS A SMOKE SCREEN. REAL PURPOSE
WAS TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN
A SEAT ON THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. JORGE ILLUECA, FONMIN TACK'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ADVISOR, WAS IN ASUNCION MAY 2 AND 3. HE CALLED ON
FONMIN SAPENA PASTOR AND DELIVERED A LETTER FROM OMAR
TORRIJOS TO PRESIDENT STROESSNER. ACCORDING TO LOCAL
NEWSPAPERS THE LETTER CONTAINED A REPORT ON THE
PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATION AND AN EXPRESSION OF HOPE
THAT PARAGUAY WOULD SUPPORT THE PANAMANIAN
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POSITION.

3. HOWEVER, A HIGHLY-PLACED FONOFF OFFICIAL TOLD ME
THAT THE REAL PURPOSE OF THE LETTER AND THE VISIT WAS
TO ELICIT PARAGUAY'S SUPPORT OF PANAMA'S ASPIRATION FOR
THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT. ILLUECA WAS INFORMED
THAT PARAGUAY HAS GIVEN ITS SUPPORT TO ARGENTINA AND
WILL NOT RPT NOT CHANGE. A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT
STROESSNER CONFIRMING PARAGUAY'S SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA
WILL BE SENT TO PANAMA TOMORROW.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, MINISTERIAL VISITS, INTERNATIONAL CANALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ASUNCIO1711
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0740
From: ASUNCION
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750575/aaaacqjj.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PANAM 2546
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTER TACK AND DR. JORGE ILLUECA
TAGS: PFOR, PN, PA, PQ, UNSC, (TACK, JUAN ANTONIO), (ILLUECA, JORGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006